



FEMA

Disaster News

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\$1.5 Million Obligated for Pipelines for Foster Park Well Field

PASADENA, Calif. — The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today announced a \$1.5 million Public Assistance grant awarded to the City of Ventura's River/Foster Park Well Field for necessary repair and replacement of pipelines to a primary water production well that was damaged during the storms of December 27 – January 11, 2005.

"In keeping our commitment to help communities recover from the winter storms, we awarded the City a Public Assistance grant to replace the pipelines," said Federal Coordinating Officer David Fukutomi.

On February 4, at the request of Governor Schwarzenegger, President Bush declared Ventura County eligible for public and individual assistance for damages that occurred during the late December and early January storms.

Eligible costs for the project total more than \$2 million, with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) paying 18.75 percent and city contributing the remaining 6.25 percent.

"We recognize the impact this winter's storms have placed on local budgets," said Henry Renteria, director of OES and state coordinating officer for the disaster. "The more than \$375,000 in state funding approved for eligible work on this project, combined with the federal reimbursements announced today, will help ease some of the burden the storms have placed on the city's budget by reducing its share of eligible costs to less than seven percent."

Public Assistance categories for eligibility can include debris removal; immediate protective measures, including overtime pay for emergency workers; repair of roads and bridges; repair of water control facilities; repair of public buildings and equipment; repair of public utilities; and repair of recreational facilities such as parks.

OES coordinates overall state agency response to major disasters in support of local government. The office is responsible for ensuring California's readiness to respond to and recover from natural, manmade and war-caused emergencies and for assisting local governments in their emergency preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery efforts.